

**Draft Summary of the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
March 13, 2001**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted the kick-off meeting for the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group on March 13, 2001 in Oroville at the Eagles Hall between 6:00-9:00 p.m.

A summary of the discussion, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present a summary of the discussion for information purposes for interested parties.

Introduction

Attendees were welcomed to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group meeting. Jim Martin of the Department of Water Resources was introduced as the Resource Area Manager for the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group. The meeting objectives were discussed. Work Group Meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees and their affiliations are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. Flip chart notes during the meeting are included as Attachment 3.

Groundrules

Patti Kroen, the Facilitator, discussed a set of Ground Rules for participants and the Facilitator. The Ground Rules were presented as a collection of expected actions and behavior that have worked well in other relicensing processes. The Ground Rules could change to meet the needs of the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group contingent upon agreement from participants. Work Group members were encouraged to review the Process Protocols, and consider them as an extension of the Ground Rules.

The role of the Facilitator in the relicensing process was described; the Facilitator is a neutral party and acts as an advocate for the relicensing process, not a particular outcome. As a neutral party the Facilitator's job is to work with the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics participants to develop a roadmap and guide the relicensing process to achieve the goals and objectives of the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group. After some discussion, the participants expressed general agreement with the Ground Rules. The Ground Rules for participants and the Facilitator are appended to this summary as Attachment 4.

Work Group Mandates

The Facilitator discussed the three-tiered Group Structure proposed for the Oroville Facilities relicensing process; the three tiers are the Plenary Group, Work Groups, and Task Forces. Each tier of the Group Structure was defined with special emphasis and discussion on the roles and responsibilities of the Work Group. The Work Group was described as a resource specific group that provides information and recommendations to the Plenary Group. The Facilitator also described a Task Force as a collection of participants organized to research and resolve specific issues.

The Facilitator stressed the time commitment that Work Group participation requires, and that each member should be prepared to think creatively and collaborative when developing settlement agreements for Plenary Group consideration.

- ♦ The Work Group discussed coordination of issues and information between the various Work Groups and Task Forces. There was concern that with so many meetings going on, issues

could be lost. The Facilitator reminded the group that Work Group updates are a part of each Plenary Group meeting. Additionally, the DWR Resource Area Managers representing each Work Group meet regularly to make sure that issues are passed between Work Groups when appropriate. She added that a number of people attend all of the Work Group and Plenary Group meetings.

Work Group Schedule

Steve Nachtman of the consulting team described a draft schedule outlining critical paths to develop issue statements and the draft Scoping Document; he also discussed schedule linkages related to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group meetings for the next year. He reported the Plenary Group decision to delay distribution of the draft Scoping Document from mid-May to mid-July, allowing the Work Groups more time to develop issue statements for inclusion in the draft Scoping Document.

Steve described the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group's role in developing the issue statements, indicating that it would take approximate 4 to 6 meetings to prepare the final Scoping Document. He added that study plans will be finished before the end of the year, and pre-study preparations could occur during the winter.

Elements of the Initial Information Package (IIP)

Steve Nachtman described the IIP as an informal document provided by the licensee to participants and FERC during the relicensing process. The IIP includes a project description, description of environmental resources, information on issues and important topics, and outlines studies significant to the relicensing process. Steve directed the Work Group to Sections 4.11 and 4.12 of the IIP which describes land use and aesthetic issues, including land ownership within and adjacent to the project boundary, and management plans applicable to the relicensing process.

Scoping Statement Development

The Facilitator and Steve Nachtman lead the Work Group in a discussion on developing issue statements.

- ◆ The Work Group discussed the difference between land use and land management. Land use is related to use designations such as residential, grazing, forest reserve, etc.; land management is typically related to activities such as specific grazing practices or programs implementing vegetation controls. For example, a campground is a land use and the maintenance and operation of a campground is land management.

Issues and Interests

The group discussed the development of issue statements recognizing that the issue statements would drive the studies conducted and therefore had to accurately reflect the Work Group's desires.

The consulting team provided the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group with a list of issues and concerns identified during earlier Plenary, Public, and other Work Group meetings. The list of issues and concerns distributed to the Work Group is appended to this summary as Attachment 5. The issues and concerns have not been edited, but have been grouped by category land use, land management, and aesthetics. The Work Group reviewed the list, providing clarification on specific issues and adding new issues. A complete list of comments on issues is included with Flip-Chart notes as Attachment 3.

The Work Group agreed to have the consulting team organize the issues received to date into issue statements for review at the next Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics meeting.

Next Meeting

The Work Group agreed to the following three month meeting schedule:

Date: Tuesday, April 10
Time: 6:00-9:00 PM

Dates: Tuesday, May 15
Tuesday, June 12
Time: To be determined

Location: To be determined

Agreements Made

1. The Work Group agreed to the Ground Rules as presented.
2. The Work Group agreed to review draft issues statements developed by the consulting team at their next meeting.
3. The Work Group agreed to meet again on April 10, May 15 and June 12, 2001 from 6 PM to 10 PM (location to be determined).

Action Items

The following list of action items identified by the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group includes a description of the action, the participant responsible for the action, and item status.

Action Item #LU1: Contact US Forest Service and US Bureau of Land Management to make sure that they are engaged in the ALP and submit issues.

Responsible: DWR staff
Due Date: April 10, 2001

Action Item #LU2: Provide DWR/DPR relationship document (Administrative Order #6) to the public resource depository.

Responsible: DWR staff
Due Date: April 10, 2001

Action Item #LU3: Consulting team will prepare issues statements based on input received to date. Information will be distributed to Work Group one week prior to their next meeting for discussion, review and comment.

Responsible: Consulting Team
Due Date: April 3, 2001

**Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting Agenda
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
March 13, 2001**

Agenda

Desired Outcomes

- *Acceptance of Ground Rules*
- *Concurrence with Work Group Schedule and Mandate*
- *Concurrence with Work Group Schedule*
- *Commitment to an understanding Roles and Expectations by all participants*

- 1. Welcome, Opening Remarks, Introductions**
- 2. Agenda and Ground Rules**
- 3. Work Group Mandate**
- 4. Work Group Schedule**
- 5. Elements of the Initial Information Package**
 - ♦ **Land Use**
 - ♦ **Aesthetics**
- 6. Issues and Interests**
 - ♦ **Land Use**
 - ♦ **Aesthetics**
- 7. Action Items, Next Meeting and Next Steps**

**Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting Attendees
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)**

Rashid Ahmad	Department of Water Resources
Randy Basner	CHP Chico
Jean Brown	Resident
Roger Calloway	Department of Water Resources
Frank Caunt	Water Commission
Ron Davis	Recreationist
Armando Dilger	Thermalito
Dick Dunkel	LOFEC / Paradise
Lorraine Frazier	Mooretown Rancheria
Ray Gannett	Bidwell Marina
Floyd Higgins	Oroville Model Airplane Club
Cathy Hodges	Equestrian Trial Riders / Hiker
Craig T. Jones	State Water Contractors
D.C. Jones	Resident
Curt Josiassen	Sutter County Supervisor, JPA
Frances Kelley	Butte Co. Citizens for Fair Government
Mike Kelley	Butte Co. Tax Payers Association
John Lance	Department of Water Resources
Tom Lichtenberg	Department of Water Resources
Peter Maki	Feather River Nature Center
Jim Martin	Department of Water Resources
Steve Nachtman	HARZA/Edaw
Joyce Perkins	Department of Water Resources
Doug Poppelreiter	LOFEC CA4WDC
Rick Ramirez	Department of Water Resources
Ray Scales	
Jim Schindler	Department of Water Resources
Ruth Sheldon	Real Estate Broker
Jo Sherman	City of Oroville
Adrian Smith	Maidu – Concow
Ward Tabor	Department of Water Resources
Jim Upholt	Department of Water Resources
Todd Upton	CHP / Chico
David Whitewolf	Cherokee Tribe
Vince Wong	Zone 7 Water Agency
Kim Yamaguchi	Butte County Supervisor

Notes from Flip Charts Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

The following list was recorded on flip charts during the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting. The flip chart listing is not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting or to indicate agreement or disagreement with the items listed; the intent is to provide a summary for informational purposes for interested parties who could not attend the meeting.

Information

- <http://Orovillerelicensing.ca.gov>
- 1-866-820-8198

Issues - New

- consider additional PG&E land acquisition (RD)
- Consider potential projects that could affect aesthetic nature of project (MK)
- Industrial use ban on State recreation lands (RD)
- Add "user friendly" to security and fines (RD)
- Restoration of riparian waterways (AS)
- Mitigate environmental concerns with aesthetics (MK)
- Protect seasonally exposed cultural sites (AS)
- Open Access to both sides of low flow channel (PM)
- Trail management responsive to environmental and aesthetic concerns (KH)
- Consideration of expanded access "Please/yes Trespassing" (RD)
- Afterbay campsite/Marina (DD)
- Effective sanctions for non compliance with FERC (RD)
- Poorly maintained visitor center (improve) (AS)
- Preservation of open/natural areas/ greenbelts (RD)
- Expand use of "low impact" signs (RG)
- LORSA trail plan (to Recreation WG) (WG)

Issues – Change Existing (Attachment #5)

- Plantings should include budget for maintenance (first bullet in Aesthetics) (KH)
- Ad Cultural Resources – third bullet in Land Use (also in Cultural List) (DW)
- Specify that the interest was specific to the Plumas NF – seventh bullet in Land Management (WT)
- All plantings should be native plants – fifth bullet in Aesthetics (KH)

Next Meetings

- Next meeting: April 10, May 15, June 12

Action Items

- Contact Federal agencies (USFS and BLM specifically) for input
- DWR/DPR relationship document to public resource depository (library)
- Consultants to prepare issues statements from current input

Ground Rules
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

Ground Rules For Participants

- ♦ Actively participate
- ♦ Respect others
- ♦ Be brief and prepared
- ♦ One person speak at a time
- ♦ Oroville Facilities relicensing focus
- ♦ Listen to each other
- ♦ Leave 'baggage' at the door
- ♦ Communicate interests, not positions
- ♦ Help involve all
- ♦ Seek solutions for all
- ♦ No 'gunny sacking'

Ground Rules For Facilitator

- ♦ Help group accomplish objectives
- ♦ Help guide discussion
- ♦ Enforce participant ground rules
- ♦ Help involve all
- ♦ Ask 'why' to clarify
- ♦ Manage time
- ♦ Track actions, next steps, deadline

Land Use, Land Management, And Aesthetics -- Issues and Interests Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

The following issues and concerns related to land use, management and aesthetics were raised at past public, Plenary, and Work Group meetings or submitted to DWR.

LAND USE

- Develop more areas for recreation
- Develop land access to far north side of lake
- Increase communication on issues relating to present DWR land usage around the lake area so it shifts from unused to recreational or appropriate public use.
- Contact PG&E regarding property at Lime Saddle Marina, the 5 plus acres to add more parking available to public and add much needed road and entrance.
- There is an interest in integrating recreation opportunities provided by the reservoir with those that could occur on adjacent national forest system lands. Uses need to be complimentary with no unmitigated impact on heritage resources and little if any impact on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat or vegetative productivity. Opportunities could include boat in camping sites, trails from the reservoir to points of scenic or other interest and improvement of existing road access to the reservoir.

LAND MANAGEMENT

- Lake security and fines
- Preserve unpaved status of RR grade multi-use trail
- Immediate access by public vehicles at Lakeland Boulevard to the old railroad grade area of the diversion pool with future consideration of improvements in that same area.
- Are additional funds needed to augment the existing budget for the management of the Oroville Wildlife Area? Presently available Fish and Game funds are being dedicated to managing people and not wildlife habitat.
- Are additional funds needed for law enforcement? Presently two-thirds of all the local game warden activities are spent on the Oroville wildlife area. An augmentation of funding for more wardens would free up time for other law enforcement activities outside of the wildlife area.
- Fuel load on state lands – potential impact to habitat (wildlife and human)
- There is an interest in management of national forest system lands located within and adjacent to the project area within the framework of the Forest Plan Amendment EIS. Management could include establishment of Defensible Fuel Profile Zones, prescribed burning or other activities compatible with the EIS.
- There is an interest in reviewing the arrangement to defer recreation management to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for the purpose of determining whether to continue, modify or terminate this agreement. The arrangement if continued needs to be formally documented and updated to reflect current management direction.

AESTHETICS

- Lake levels sink too low in the summer - 'bathtub ring'
- Power lines – camouflage them
- Clean-up:
 - Garbage
 - Invasive species
 - Construction debris
- Debris program established on regular schedule
- Day use park: water lines in the south side of the river between the Fish Barrier Dam and the Diversion Dam need to be installed to irrigate plantings.

- Remove old Rail Road trestle and other debris from river.
- Remove concrete and construction debris in Feather River including below the Fish Barrier dam, below the Table Mountain Bridge, below the Hwy 70 bridge.
- Replace landscaping at the Feather River Fish Hatchery and adjacent river areas.
- Clean up old 'City' park adjacent to the north side of the Fish Barrier Dam, just north of the Fish Hatchery. Taken over by DWR when SWP was constructed, never re-opened. Provide picnic areas and restroom facilities. Turn over to City of Oroville.
- Clean up shoreline, particularly adjacent to camping and public access areas. Use county prisoner-release programs if necessary, to maintain clean shorelines.
- Re-seed Oroville Dam.
- Dump areas used by DWR need to be removed.
- Native plant landscaping and restoration of native plant communities (Potential sites: Feather River fish hatchery, State Parks headquarters, DWR field office)